Remarks

On page 2 of the Action, claims 1, 3, 4, 13, 14, 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Scherzer et al. alone, or in view of Fujita et al.

In view of the rejection, claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 3, and claim 3 has been canceled.

In Scherzer et al., polyurethane foam is produced by reacting isocyanates with compounds which are reactive toward isocyanates and have a molecular weight of from 400 to 8000 in the presence of blowing agents, catalysts, chain extenders, crosslinkers, and additives. The compounds which are reactive toward isocyanates are polyols including functional polyether polyols and/or based on glycerol and/or trimethylolpropane. The polyurethane foam is used as an insulation material in the building and refrigeration appliance sector, e.g. intermediate layer for sandwiching elements or for filling refrigerator housing or freezer chest housing with foam (column 10, lines 4-8).

In the polyurethane foam of the invention, a molar ratio of urea bond relative to urethane bond is 7 or less and more than 0.2, which is calculated by specific calculation method; the hydroxyl compound contains 100 parts by weight of polyether polyol with molecular weight from 3000 to 6000 and containing 50 wt% or more of secondary hydroxyl group, and 0.5-20 parts by weight of another hydroxyl compound having a molecular weight lower than that of the polyether polyol; another hydroxyl compound is selected from the group consisting of ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, diethylene glycol, butanediol, glycerin, trimethylolpropane, triethylolpropane, trimethylolethane, triethylolethane, pentaerythritol and 1,2,6-hexanetriol; an amount of water compounded is 1.0 to 6.0 parts by weight relative to 100 parts by weight of the polyether polyol; the foam stabilizer is a silicone based stabilizer modified with polyether, and has at least one

reactive group; and the flexible polyurethane foam has a density of 20 to 40 kg/m^3.

Also, claim 1 is directed to the edge member of a diaphragm of a speaker edge. The silicone base stabilizer modified with polyether and having at least one reactive group improves heat and humidity aging characteristics of the edge member made of flexible polyurethane foam.

In Scherzer et al., the polyurethane foam similar to the present invention is disclosed. However, the specific materials used in the present invention are not disclosed. Also, Scherzer et al. is used as the insulation material in the building and refrigeration appliance sector. The edge member having the silicone base stabilizer of the present invention is not disclosed or suggested by Scherzer et al.

Fujita et al. is directed to a polyurethane foam and a speaker edge comprising the polyurethane foam. In Fujita et al., the speaker edge is formed by the specific polyurethane foam, but the polyurethane foam disclosed in Fujita et al. is different from that of the invention. Therefore, even if the polyurethane foam disclosed in Fujita et a. is used for the speaker edge, it is not known that the polyurethane foam disclosed in Scherzer et al. is suitable for the speaker edge.

The polyurethane foam formed of the specific materials of the present invention as clearly recited in claim 1 is not disclosed in Scherzer et al. Even if the polyurethane foam in Fujita et al. is used in the speaker edge, since the characteristics of the polyurethane foam in Fujita et al. is different from those of the invention, it is not known that the polyurethane foam of the invention is suitable for the speaker edge. Especially, the polyurethane form in Scherzer et al. is different from that of the invention. Therefore, even if Scherzer et al. and Fujita et al.

are combined, claim 1 of the invention is not obvious from the cited references.

Reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

One month extension of time is hereby requested. A credit card authorization form in the amount of $120.00 is attached herewith for the one month extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

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